

Message Text

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SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTIONS
ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

1. AFTER A SERIES OF WIDE-RANGING DEBATES, COUNCIL OF EUROPE
PARLIAMENTARIANS PASSED RESOLUTIONS ON THE OECD, ON EFTA, AND
ON A EUROPEAN SHIPPING POLICY.

2. THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY WAS ADDRESSED BY JONKHEER VAN
LENNEP, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OECD, WHO PRESENTED A BALANCE
SHEET OF RECENT OECD ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSED CURRENT ECONOMIC
TRENDS. NOTABLY, VAN LENNEP CONTENDED THAT WHILE AN ECONOMIC
UP-SWING IN THE UNITED STATES WAS AN ESTABLISHED FACT, EUROPE
HAS YET TO REACH AN ECONOMIC TURNING POINT. THE SUBSEQUENT
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DEBATE WAS FOR THE MOST PART DEVOID OF CONTROVERSY, ALTHOUGH

ONE PARLIAMENTARIAN ALLUDED TO THE THREAT OF U.S. PROTECTIONISM AND ANOTHER ACCUSED THE FORD ADMINISTRATION OF DELAYING THE U.S. ECONOMIC RECOVERY (AND HENCE DERIVATELY THE EUROPEAN RECOVERY) UNTIL 1976 FOR REASONS OF PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS. IN ITS RESOLUTION, THE ASSEMBLY PRAISED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE OECD (AND OF ITS PREDECESSOR, THE OEEC) ON THE OCCASION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE OECD CONVENTION, REGRETTED THAT AN EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAS YET TO BE OPENED, DREW ATTENTION TO THE "LIMITS TO GROWTH", URGED THE OECD TO FAVOR A STABLE FLOW OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES FROM OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES, AND INVITED THE OECD TO DRAW UP A MORE COMPREHENSIVE OUTLINE OF WHAT IT CONSIDERS AS ITS TASKS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR THE FUTURE. IN A SEPARATE RESOLUTION ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, THE ASSEMBLY NOTED THE OECD'S IMPORTANT ROLE AS A "THINK-TANK", AND CALLED UPON IT TO ACCELERATE WORK ON THE DRAWING UP OF A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

3. THE ASSEMBLY'S DISCUSSION OF EFTA CENTERED ON ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AND, IN A SERIES OF HEATED EXCHANGES BETWEEN ICELANDIC AND GERMAN AND BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS, ON ICELANDIC FISHERY LIMITS. ACCORDINGLY, IN ITS RESOLUTION THE ASSEMBLY EMPHASIZED THE ROLE EFTA CAN PLAY IN ASSISTING PORTUGAL IN ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND URGED ICELAND AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO COOPERATE IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON FISHING RIGHTS. IN THE LATTER REGARD, THE ASSEMBLY ORDERED ITS COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE TO MEDIATE THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ICELAND AND GERMANY, IF ALL PARTIES CONSIDER THIS APPROPRIATE.

4. IN HIS REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY ON EUROPEAN SHIPPING POLICY, JOHN PRESCOTT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM FOCUSED ON THE NEW UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LINER CONFERENCES, WHICH HE ARGUED MAY REDUCE THE SHARE IN SHIPPING OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. REGRETTING THE DISCORD AMONG THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THIS CODE, THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TAKE THE INITIATIVE FOR THE CONVENING OF A EUROPEAN CONFERENCE TO ESTABLISH A COMMON EUROPEAN POLICY ON THE CODE AND OTHER SHIPPING MATTERS.

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5. DOCUMENTATION ON THE ABOVE WILL BE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE AMERICAN MISSION AT THE OECD.ROMINE

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